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Article 5 of 7

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Software provides report cards on doctors' bills

Computerworld; Framingham; Feb 7, 1994; [Betts, Mitch](#);

Volume: 28
Issue: 6
Start Page: 70
ISSN: 00104841
Subject Terms: [Software packages](#)
[Product introduction](#)
[Insurance claims](#)
[Health care expenditures](#)
[Claims processing](#)
[Software](#)
[Physicians](#)
[Fees & charges](#)
[Auditing](#)

Classification Codes: 9190: *US*6400: *Employee benefits & compensation*5240: *Software & systems***Geographic Names:** *US***Companies:** [Health Payment Review Inc](#)**Abstract:**

Health Payment Review Inc. is the latest firm to enter the physician profiling software niche, in which insurance claims data are adjusted for the severity of illnesses; the software provides more meaningful comparisons with other doctors' cases. In January 1994, the company introduced Patterns of Treatment Plus, which produces a variety of reports that compare a physician's practices with a well-respected database of clinical guidelines.

Full Text:*Copyright CW Communications/Inc. Feb 7, 1994*

When insurers and health maintenance organizations ask a doctor why he or she has a pattern of unusually high charges, the typical response is, "Well, my patients are sicker than other doctors' patient."

But that argument is being challenged by "physician profiling" software that adjusts claims data for the severity of illnesses and provides more meaningful comparisons with other doctors' cases.

Vendors of this hot category of software, which dovetails with the Clinton administration's plans for "report cards" on health care providers, include HealthChex, Inc. in Fairport, N.Y., GMIS, Inc. in Malvern, Pa., and Value Health, Inc. in Avon, Conn.

The latest firm to jump into the niche is Boston-based Health Payment Review, Inc. Last month, the company introduced Patterns of Treatment Plus, which produces a variety of reports that compare a physician's practices -- adjusted for severity -- with a well-respected database of clinical guidelines.

For example, the software can spot doctors who order more tests than the clinical guidelines suggest or who submit excessive claims. The flip side is that the software also identifies doctors with a pattern of high-quality, cost-effective care.

The software is available on IBM mainframes, AS/400s and RS/6000s, as well as Hewlett-Packard Co. HP 3000s, Digital Equipment Corp. VAXs and IBM-compatible PCs. The price ranges from \$50,000 to \$500,000, the vendor said.

The underlying clinical database, called Patterns of Treatment, is updated twice a year to reflect changes in accepted medical practice.

Vic Sztengel, assistant vice president for managed care at Golden Rule Insurance Co. in Indianapolis, already uses the Patterns of Treatment database, running on an IBM 3090 mainframe, for retrospective studies of physician practices. Sztengel said he plans to add the Plus module in the fourth quarter of this year to flag suspicious claims before they get paid.

The sensitivity of the profiling software can be adjusted to find claims considered questionable by, say, 100%, 90% or 70% of a doctor's peers. "When you tell a doctor that 70% to 75% of his peers consider it a bad practice, that's pretty persuasive," Sztengel said.

Will physician profiling replace the current practice of utilization review, where nurses double-check the appropriateness of particular treatments? No, Sztengel said, because managed-care organizations will need a combination of three techniques -- profiling, utilization review and full-scale "chart audits" -- to keep a lid on rising doctor bills.

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Workshop held for MPIs

Health Management Technology, Atlanta; Dec 1996; Anonymous;

Volume: 17

Issue: 13

Start Page: 44

ISSN: 10744770

Full Text:

Copyright Intertec Publishing Dec 1996

[Headnote]

Ad hoc group continues work toward specification

The Computer-based Patient Record Institute, Healthcare Open Systems and Trials, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Concurrent Engineering Research Center of West Virginia University, and others are continuing efforts toward developing a specification which may be used to mediate among local master patient indexes (MPI).

Such a tool for identifying the location of patient records may facilitate implementation of the unique identifier requirements in the recently enacted Health Insurance Portability and Accountability of 1996.

Having begun the MPI effort this past spring, the ad hoc group of associations, universities, vendors and government agencies is already a step ahead in developing a specification that addresses the administrative simplifications provisions of the new law.

The second MPI Workshop found 80 participants dedicated to developing the technical and administrative specifications. Having fleshed out the basic architecture for the MPI mediator in the first workshop, the second workshop focused on developing a specification ready to be prototyped.

Contracts

MedicaLogic's Logician medical record software has been chosen as an ambulatory care electronic medical record by BJC Health System, St. Louis, the nation's secondlargest nonprofit health care system. BJC will use the software to integrate patient medical records in more than 100 ambulatory care locations throughout Missouri and southern Illinois. MedicaLogic provides medical record software to the ambulatory health care market since 1985. Customers are served by MedicaLogic's national network of more than a dozen distribution channel partners.

Three U.S. hospital system have chosen Picis, Seattle, to automate their operation room process. The Picis products are native, 32-bit applications that run on the Microsoft Windows NT operating system and are integrated with other Microsoft products. The three hospitals are the University of Michigan Medical Center, the Harris Methodist Medical Systems and Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

Advocate MSO Inc. has implemented Medicode, Inc.'s, claims editing system ClaimsManager. Advocate MSO, a Des Plaines, Ill.-based managed services organization serving more than 300 physicians in the Chicago area, is using

Calendar

December 36

The Information Systems for Managed Care and Integrated Delivery Networks will be held at the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston Mass., (617) 4321171.

December 1 1-13

Telemedicine: From Promise to Reality will be held in San Diego, Calif., at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort, (800) 8687188.

January 14-17, 1997

San Francisco will host the Disease Management Congress: Medicode's automated coding compliance system to ensure **claim** submissions agree with coding **rules** applied by commercial and Medicare **insurance** carriers. Medicode, based in Salt Lake City, provides medical **claims** editing and bill review software, health care pricing **databases**, provider profiling and utilization tools and coding publications to all segments of the health care industry.

3Com Corp., Santa Clara, Calif., has announced that Chilton Memorial Hospital, a 256-bed community hospital based in Pompton Plains, N.J., has launched a faulttolerant asynchronous transfer mode network based on **3Com's** Transcend Networking, a framework enabling the hospital to scale, extend and manage network growth using fully integrated 3C solutions. Chilton's plan includes upgrading services and introducing applications such as the permanent patient record, all of which the network can support.

Assist Technologies, a Scottsdale, Ariz.-based software company, has signed an agreement to provide its population outcomes software to Control Diabetes' centers across the nation. Control Diabetes Services is a diabetic training and education organization based in Dallas.

Implementation & Outcomes Management, sponsored by the National Managed Health Care Congress, (617) 505-8000.

January 28-31, 1997

The Sixth Annual West Managed Health Care Congress will be held at the Palm Springs Convention Center in Palm Springs, Calif., (617) 505-8112.

January 29-31, 1997

The 1997 WEDI Trade Show and National Conference, sponsored by the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange, will be held at the Fairmont Hotel in New Orleans, (602) 431-3690.

Personnel

Lee Barrett has been named practice leader for healthcare and electronic commerce for C.W. Costello & Associates, a management information consulting firm based in Middletown, Conn.

Stacy Cope and Michael P. Robillard Jr. have joined InfoPartners, Nashville, Tenn., as senior consultants.

Punk, Ziegel & Knoell, New York, have named David Francis vice president responsible for the health care information systems industry.

Dr. Sheldon Wang has been appointed executive vice president operations for HealthVISION, a Santa Rosa, Calif.

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WEST[Help](#)[Logout](#)[Interrupt](#)[Main Menu](#)[Search Form](#)[Posting Counts](#)[Show S Numbers](#)[Edit S Numbers](#)[Preferences](#)[Cases](#)**Search Results -**

Terms	Documents
L14 and (human or person or patient) same (injur\$3 or hurt\$3)	6

Database:

US Patents Full-Text Database
US Pre-Grant Publication Full-Text Database
JPO Abstracts Database
EPO Abstracts Database
Derwent World Patents Index
IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletins

Search:

L15

[Refine Search](#)[Recall Text](#)[Clear](#)**Search History****DATE:** **Tuesday, October 15, 2002** [Printable Copy](#) [Create Case](#)

Set Name Query

side by side

DB=USPT,PGPB,JPAB,EPAB,DWPI,TDBD; PLUR=YES; OP=ADJ

<u>L15</u>	L14 and (human or person or patient) same (injur\$3 or hurt\$3)
<u>L14</u>	L10 and ((705/\$).ccls.)
<u>L13</u>	L10 and bod\$3 same (injur\$3 or sick\$6 or traumatiz\$6)
<u>L12</u>	L10 and (determin\$3 or defin\$3) same (traumatiz\$6 or trauma or dysfunction\$3) same injur\$3
<u>L11</u>	L10 and (determin\$3 or defin\$3) same (traumatiz\$3 or disfunction\$3 or dysfunction\$3) same bod\$3 same injur\$3
<u>L10</u>	L8 and (transform\$6 or modify\$6 or chang\$6)
<u>L9</u>	L8 and (transform\$6 or modify\$6 or chang\$6)
<u>L8</u>	L7 and (separat\$3 or divid\$3)
<u>L7</u>	L6 and (database or network\$3) same (stor\$3 or enclos\$3)
<u>L6</u>	l5 and (formulat\$3 or calculat\$3 or process\$3) same (value or amount)
<u>L5</u>	l4 and rul\$3
<u>L4</u>	(insurance or assurance) same claim\$3
<u>L3</u>	(insurance or assurance) same claim\$3 same rul\$3 same engine
<u>L2</u>	(insurance or assurance) same claim\$3 same (rul\$3 or govern\$3) same engine
<u>L1</u>	(insurance or assurance) same claim\$3 same (rul\$3 or govern\$3 or determin\$6) same engine

Hit Count Set Name

result set

6	<u>L15</u>	<i>considered all</i>
102	<u>L14</u>	<i>scanned all</i>
27	<u>L13</u>	
1	<u>L12</u>	
0	<u>L11</u>	
173	<u>L10</u>	
173	<u>L9</u>	
179	<u>L8</u>	
205	<u>L7</u>	
260	<u>L6</u>	
322	<u>L5</u>	
1282	<u>L4</u>	
4	<u>L3</u>	
4	<u>L2</u>	
6	<u>L1</u>	

END OF SEARCH HISTORY

WEST[Generate Collection](#)[Print](#)**Search Results - Record(s) 1 through 27 of 27 returned.**☐ 1. Document ID: US 20020128881 A1

L13: Entry 1 of 27

File: PGPB

Sep 12, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020128881

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020128881 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system for adjusting liability estimates in an accident liability assessment program

[Full](#) [Title](#) [Citation](#) [Front](#) [Review](#) [Classification](#) [Date](#) [Reference](#) [Sequences](#) [Attachments](#)[KWC](#) [Draw Desc](#) [Image](#)☐ 2. Document ID: US 20020111725 A1

L13: Entry 2 of 27

File: PGPB

Aug 15, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020111725

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020111725 A1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for risk-related use of vehicle communication system data

[Full](#) [Title](#) [Citation](#) [Front](#) [Review](#) [Classification](#) [Date](#) [Reference](#) [Sequences](#) [Attachments](#)[KWC](#) [Draw Desc](#) [Image](#)☐ 3. Document ID: US 20020091991 A1

L13: Entry 3 of 27

File: PGPB

Jul 11, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020091991

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020091991 A1

TITLE: Unified real-time microprocessor computer

[Full](#) [Title](#) [Citation](#) [Front](#) [Review](#) [Classification](#) [Date](#) [Reference](#) [Sequences](#) [Attachments](#)[KWC](#) [Draw Desc](#) [Image](#)☐ 4. Document ID: US 20020091550 A1

L13: Entry 4 of 27

File: PGPB

Jul 11, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020091550

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020091550 A1

TITLE: System and method for real-time rating, underwriting and policy issuance

[Full](#) [Title](#) [Citation](#) [Front](#) [Review](#) [Classification](#) [Date](#) [Reference](#) [Sequences](#) [Attachments](#)[KWC](#) [Draw Desc](#) [Image](#)

☐ 5. Document ID: US 20020091504 A1

L13: Entry 5 of 27

File: PGPB

Jul 11, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020091504

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020091504 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system for accumulating liability estimates

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KWIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 6. Document ID: US 20020087363 A1

L13: Entry 6 of 27

File: PGPB

Jul 4, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020087363

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020087363 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of liability assessment for an accident using environmental, vehicle, and driver conditions and driver actions

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KWIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 7. Document ID: US 20020082873 A1

L13: Entry 7 of 27

File: PGPB

Jun 27, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020082873

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020082873 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of determining right of way and liability for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KWIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 8. Document ID: US 20020069092 A1

L13: Entry 8 of 27

File: PGPB

Jun 6, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020069092

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020069092 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of assessing and adjusting liability for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KWIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 9. Document ID: US 20020069091 A1

L13: Entry 9 of 27

File: PGPB

Jun 6, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020069091
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020069091 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of liability assessment for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMOC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 10. Document ID: US 20020062235 A1

L13: Entry 10 of 27

File: PGPB

May 23, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020062235
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020062235 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system for providing claims data to an accident liability assessment program

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMOC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 11. Document ID: US 20020062234 A1

L13: Entry 11 of 27

File: PGPB

May 23, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020062234
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020062234 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of estimating liability and range of liability for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMOC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 12. Document ID: US 20020062233 A1

L13: Entry 12 of 27

File: PGPB

May 23, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020062233
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020062233 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of assessing liability for an accident using impact groups

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMOC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 13. Document ID: US 20020062232 A1

L13: Entry 13 of 27

File: PGPB

May 23, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020062232
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020062232 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system for adjusting liability estimation factors in an accident liability assessment program

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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RWMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 14. Document ID: US 20020059097 A1

L13: Entry 14 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059097

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059097 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of assigning an absolute liability value for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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RWMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 15. Document ID: US 20020059087 A1

L13: Entry 15 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059087

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059087 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of displaying an impact point relating to an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
------	-------	----------	-------	--------	----------------	------	-----------	-----------	-------------

RWMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 16. Document ID: US 20020059086 A1

L13: Entry 16 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059086

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059086 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of displaying a roadway configuration relating to an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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RWMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 17. Document ID: US 20020059085 A1

L13: Entry 17 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059085

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059085 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of determining a credible real set of characteristics for an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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RWMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 18. Document ID: US 20020059084 A1

L13: Entry 18 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059084

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059084 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of displaying an accident type

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 19. Document ID: US 20020059083 A1

L13: Entry 19 of 27

File: PGPB

May 16, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020059083

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020059083 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of determining inconsistencies in witness statements relating to an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 20. Document ID: US 20020055860 A1

L13: Entry 20 of 27

File: PGPB

May 9, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020055860

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020055860 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of determining right of way in an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 21. Document ID: US 20020049619 A1

L13: Entry 21 of 27

File: PGPB

Apr 25, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020049619

PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020049619 A1

TITLE: Computerized method and system of identifying a credible witness statement relating to an accident

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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KMIC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 22. Document ID: US 20020035488 A1

L13: Entry 22 of 27

File: PGPB

Mar 21, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020035488
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020035488 A1

TITLE: System and method of administering, tracking and managing of claims processing

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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MMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 23. Document ID: US 20020002475 A1

L13: Entry 23 of 27

File: PGPB

Jan 3, 2002

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20020002475
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020002475 A1

TITLE: Automated insurance system and method

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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MMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 24. Document ID: US 20010056544 A1

L13: Entry 24 of 27

File: PGPB

Dec 27, 2001

PGPUB-DOCUMENT-NUMBER: 20010056544
PGPUB-FILING-TYPE: new
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20010056544 A1

TITLE: Electrically controlled automated devices to operate, slow, guide, stop and secure, equipment and machinery for the purpose of controlling their unsafe, unattended, unauthorized, unlawful hazardous and/or legal use, with remote control and accountability worldwide

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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MMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 25. Document ID: US 6199034 B1

L13: Entry 25 of 27

File: USPT

Mar 6, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6199034
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6199034 B1

TITLE: Methods and apparatus for determining theme for discourse

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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MMC	Draw Desc	Image
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☐ 26. Document ID: US 6173068 B1

L13: Entry 26 of 27

File: USPT

Jan 9, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6173068
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6173068 B1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for recognizing and classifying individuals based on minutiae

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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FORM	Draw Desc	Image
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☒ 27. Document ID: US 6098070 A

L13: Entry 27 of 27

File: USPT

Aug 1, 2000

US-PAT-NO: 6098070

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6098070 A

TITLE: Case management for a personal injury plaintiff's law office using a relational database

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Sequences	Attachments
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FORM	Draw Desc	Image
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[Generate Collection](#)[Print](#)

Terms	Documents
L10 and bod\$3 same (injur\$3 or sick\$6 or traumatiz\$6)	27

Display Format:

-

[Change Format](#)[Previous Page](#)[Next Page](#)

WEST

End of Result Set



Generate Collection

Print

L13: Entry 27 of 27

File: USPT

Aug 1, 2000

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6098070 A

TITLE: Case management for a personal injury plaintiff's law office using a relational database

Brief Summary Text (12):

By automating the case handling and document production processes, software can reduce the amount of time required to prepare a case for settlement. By reducing the amount of time required to work up the average case, the profit margin can increase substantially. Furthermore, the attorney has more time to spend investigating and preparing their cases and obtaining new clients.

Brief Summary Text (14):

One of the major impediments to efficient management of data in a personal injury plaintiff's law office is the complex nature of the data. For a given case, the law office may represent many clients, each with differing claims and injuries. There may be many defendants. Many third parties are also involved in the process: defendants' lawyers, doctors, witnesses, expert witnesses, police departments, auto body shops, insurance companies, attorneys for the insurance companies, etc. Because there is so much information, typical systems have been unable to provide for efficient data entry and management. These are critical precedent steps toward gaining the benefits from these types of programs.

Brief Summary Text (41):

The database manager includes instructions for merging data stored in records in the tables with document templates in accordance with predefined merge rules. The database manager manages the relational data structure in accordance with predefined structure rules. These structure rules include:

Detailed Description Text (6):

Before proceeding, a few terms are defined. By "software" it is meant one or more computer interpretable programs and/or modules related and preferably integrated for performing a desired function. By "document" it is meant a named, structural unit of text, graphics and/or other data that can be stored, retrieved and exchanged among systems and users as a separate unit. By "case" it is meant. By "incident" it is meant the action or event which gave rise to the injuries for which the law firm's client seeks compensation, and could be, for example, a car accident, a dog bite, a slip and fall, or an assault and batter. By "client" it is meant a client of the law firm who the law firm is representing with respect to the client's claim arising from an incident. By "defendant" it is meant a party which is potentially liable for a client's damages, and encompasses such parties regardless of whether the client sues the party.

Detailed Description Text (12):

The database includes the tables shown in Tables IA, IB and IC. These tables include columns identifying the tables of the data structure of the invention, a description of the data stored in the table, the table's essentiality, and the corresponding reference number in FIGS. 2-4. The tables of Table IA are shown in FIG. 2. The tables of Table IB are shown in FIG. 3. The tables of Table IC are shown in FIG. 4. Table IA lists the tables which store records specific to incidents where the primary linkage is by an incident key. Table IB lists the tables which store records specific to incidents where the primary linkage is by incident key plus a client key. Table IC lists the tables which store records which are not specific to incidents, and are also not specific to clients.

Detailed Description Text (21):

Each client must have a unique client ID field for each case. Each defendant must have a unique defendant ID field for each case. Preferably, the client IDs and defendant IDs are unique amongst each other for each case as well. This permits linkages between the insurers table and discovery tables. Alternatively, for tables which might have an ID field which could be filled by a client ID or a defendant ID, flags may be provided to indicate whether an ID is a client ID or a defendant ID, or separate fields may be provided for client ID and defendant ID.

Detailed Description Text (65):

The operation of the database management program is further described with reference to FIG. 29. After the database management program is started (step 2905), the database management program provides prompts and controls the input of data by a user and stores the data in the long term memory 180 (step 2910). Next, the database management program provides prompts for the user to select an output (e.g., an analytical report or a form document) and controls the user's input of criteria data to be used by the database management program to generate the output (step 2915). The database management program next generates the desired output (step 2920), and processing is complete (step 2925).

Detailed Description Text (66):

The electronic case manager manages the data structure in accordance with predefined structure rules in the database management program. Some of these structure rules are also evident from FIGS. 2-4, wherein some tables are shown as a single box, to show one record in that table per case, and other tables are shown as staggered boxes, to show multiple possible records in that table per case. The structure rules include:

Detailed Description Text (106):

The database management program includes instructions for merging data stored in records in the tables with document templates in accordance with predefined merge rules. Thus, after the database management program guides the user through selection of a particular type of document to have generated and database record selection criteria, the database management program generate the selected document on the printer 125 (FIG. 1).

Detailed Description Text (111):

documents directly. For example, Judicial Council Forms are in a format which is generally incompatible with most word processors. Accordingly, the Judicial Council Forms are stored in a graphic-type format, and the database management program places the data in the proper position in the desired form. If the user has properly entered all needed data into the database, then the database management program can gather this data, through linkages such as the client ID, fill in the data in the form, and print the form.

Detailed Description Text (112):

Although exemplary embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, it will be apparent to those having ordinary skill in the art that a number of changes, modifications, or alterations to the invention as described herein may be made, none of which depart from the spirit of the present invention. All such changes, modifications and alterations should therefore be seen as within the scope of the present invention.

Detailed Description Paragraph Table (1):

TABLE IA	Table Name	Description	Reference
Essential?	defendants information about prospective	220 .check mark. and actual defendants for claims by law office clients for personal injuries insurers information about insurers	210 .check mark. attorneys information storing about 260 .check mark. defense and insurance attorneys incidents information about injury- 205 .check mark. causing incidents witnesses information about witnesses
	215 .check mark. expert witnesses information about expert	250 .check mark. witnesses evidence information about evidence	245 .check mark. litigation information about litigation
	230 .check mark. depositions information about depositions	255 .check mark. motions information about motions	240 .check mark. arbitrations information about arbitrations
	235 .check mark. police reports		

Detailed Description Paragraph Table (10):

TABLE VI	Incidents Table	Structure	Field Name
Description	Reference	Essential?	file number an identifier of the case - unique
901 .check mark. incident date the date the incident occurred,	902 .check mark. and preferably also the time incident type the type of incident	903 location the location of the incident	904 .check mark. description a narrative description of the
905 .check mark. incident code violation any government			

laws, re- 906 gulations, rules or ordinances which were violated conditions relevant conditions to the 907 incident prior accidents information about prior related 908 accidents

Detailed Description Paragraph Table (21):

TABLE XVI	Motions Table Structure Field Name
Description Reference Essential?	file number an
identifier of the case - unique 1901 .check mark. moving party an identifier of the	
moving party 1902 .check mark. ID (client ID or defendant ID) responding an identifier	
of the responding 1903 .check mark. party ID party (client ID or defendant ID) motion	
type the type of motion 1904 .check mark. date served the date the motion served 1905	
service type the type of service of the motion 1906 <u>ruling</u> the court's <u>ruling</u> on the	
motion 1907 notice required indicates whether notice of 1908 <u>ruling</u> required to be	
given hearing date the hearing date of the motion 1909 .check mark. hearing time the	
hearing time of the motion 1910 .check mark. department the department, division or	
court 1911 .check mark.	

Detailed Description Paragraph Table (22):

room for the hearing opposition due the date when the opposition to 1912 the motion must be filed reply due the date when the reply to the 1913 opposition must be filed follow up describes subsequent actions 1914 required pursuant to court's ruling

CLAIMS:

1. An electronic case manager for a personal injury plaintiffs law office in which client and defendant level data related to an injury incident are collected, the electronic case manager including a computer having a storage device, an output device, and system software for inputting, managing and outputting case data comprising:

(a) a data structure programmed and arranged for classifying data in a relational structure comprising a plurality of tables, the tables comprising plural records relating to personal injury-causing incidents, each record comprising at least one field, the tables comprising:

- (i) a clients table for storing information about clients in client records,
- (ii) a defendants table for storing information about prospective and actual defendants for claims by law office clients for personal injuries in defendant records,
- (iii) an insurers table for storing information about insurers in insurer records,
- (iv) an attorneys table for storing information storing about defense and insurance attorneys in attorney records,
- (v) an incidents table for storing information about injury-causing incidents in incidents records,
- (vi) a property damage table for storing information about property damage in property damage records,
- (vii) a loss of earning table for storing information about loss of earnings in loss of earnings records,
- (viii) a medical bills table for storing information about medical bills in medical bills records,
- (ix) a witnesses table for storing information about witnesses in witness records,
- (x) an expert witnesses table for storing information about expert witnesses in expert witness records,
- (xi) an evidence table for storing information about evidence in evidence records,
- (xii) a litigation table for storing information about litigation in litigation records,
- (xiii) a depositions table for storing information about depositions in deposition records,

- (xiv) a discovery table for storing information about discovery in discovery records,
- (xv) a motions table for storing information about motions in motion records,
- (xvi) a costs table for storing information about court costs in costs records,
- (xvii) an arbitrations table for storing information about arbitrations in arbitration records,
- (xviii) a police reports table for storing information about police reports in police report records

wherein the tables are linked through certain identical fields, the linkages comprising:

a file number field is included in and required in the records of the clients table, the defendants table, the insurers table, the attorneys table, the incidents table, the property damage table, the loss of earning table, the medical bills table, the witnesses table, the expert witnesses table, the evidence table, the litigation table, the depositions table, the discovery table, the motions table, the costs table, the arbitrations table and the police reports table, the file number field comprising a unique reference number for referencing incidents,

a client name field is included in and required in the records of the clients table, the loss of earning table, the medical bills table, the discovery table and the costs table, the client name field comprising a client's name and is unique in each table for each file number,

(b) a database manager programmed and arranged for managing the data structure to allow users to generate documents on the output device,

(i) the database manager including instructions for merging data stored in records in the tables with document templates in accordance with predefined merge rules,

(ii) the database manager managing the data structure in accordance with predefined structure rules, the structure rules including:

- 1) for each incident there will be at least one client record,
- 2) for each incident there will be at least one defendant record,
- 3) for each incident there will be at least one insurer record,
- 4) for each incident there may be one or more attorney records,
- 5) for each incident there will be only one incident record,
- 6) for each incident there may be one or more property damage records,
- 7) for each incident there may be one or more loss of earnings records,
- 8) for each incident there may be one or more medical bills records,
- 9) for each incident there may be one or more witness records,
- 10) for each incident there may be one or more expert witness records,
- 11) for each incident there may be one or more evidence records,
- 12) for each incident there may be one litigation record,
- 13) for each incident there may be one or more deposition records,
- 14) for each incident there may be one or more discovery records,
- 15) for each incident there may be one or more motion records,
- 16) for each incident there may be one or more costs records.

4. The electronic case manager for a personal injury plaintiffs law office set forth in claim 1, the insurer records comprising:

- (a) a file number field for storing the file number associated with the given incident,
- (b) an insured name field for storing a name of a party having insurance coverage relating to the given incident,
- (c) an adjuster name field for storing a name of an insurance adjuster assigned to represent an insurer in the given incident with respect to the insured whose name is in the insured name field,
- (d) an insurance policy number field for storing an insurance policy number for the insurance policy of the insured whose name is in the insured name field,
- (e) a claim number field for storing a claim number used by the insurer with respect to the incident,
- (f) a policy limits field for storing the monetary limits of the insurance policy of the insured whose name is in the insured name field,
- (g) a medical payments field,
- (h) a reimbursement field,
- (i) a rental car field for storing whether the insurance policy provides for payment for a rental car,
- (j) an uninsured motorist field for storing whether the insurance policy provides for payment for uninsured motorist claims,
- (k) an uninsured motorist limits field for storing an amount of coverage for uninsured motorist claims.

5. The electronic case manager for a personal injury plaintiffs law office set forth in claim 1, the incident records comprising:

- (a) a file number field for storing the file number associated with the given incident,
- (b) an incident date field for storing the date of the given incident,
- (c) an accident type field for storing the type of incident,
- (d) a location field for storing the location of the incident,
- (e) a description field for storing a narrative description of the incident,
- (f) a code violation field for storing references to governmental rules, regulations and laws under which a citation was issued for the given incident,
- (g) a conditions field for storing a description of any environmental conditions relevant to the given incident,
- (h) a prior accidents field.

6. The electronic case manager for a personal injury plaintiffs law office set forth in claim 1, the tables further comprising:

- (a) a body shops table for storing information about body shops in body shop records,
- (b) an attorney information table for storing information about attorneys in attorney name records,
- (c) an adjusters table for storing information about insurance adjusters,
- (d) a medical providers table for storing information about medical care providers;

wherein the tables are linked through identical fields, the linkages comprising:

a body shop name field is included in and required in the records of the body shops table and the property damage table, the body shop name field comprising a unique key for referencing a body shop,

an attorney name field is included in and required in the records of the attorneys table and the attorney names table, the attorney name field comprising a unique key for referencing an attorney,

an adjuster field is included in and required in the records of the adjusters table and the insurance table, the adjuster field comprising a unique key for referencing an insurance adjuster,

a medical provider name field is included in and required in the records of the medical providers table and the medical bills table, the medical provider name field comprising a unique key for referencing a medical care provider;

the structure rules including:

there may be one or more body shops records for each property damage record, and multiple property damage records may have identical data in their body shop name fields,

there will be one attorney name record for each attorney record, and multiple attorney records may have identical data in their attorney name fields,

there will be one adjuster record for each insurance record, and multiple insurance records may have identical data in their adjuster name fields,

there will be one medical provider record for each medical bill record, and multiple medical bill records may have identical data in their medical provider name fields.